
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6078

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Heavey, Prince and Owen)

Read first time 01/26/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to the public presentation of information regarding
2 regional transit authority projects; and amending RCW 81.104.140.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 81.104.140 and 1992 c 101 s 25 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Agencies authorized to provide high capacity transportation
7 service, including transit agencies and regional transit authorities,
8 are hereby granted dedicated funding sources for such systems. These
9 dedicated funding sources, as set forth in RCW 81.104.150, 81.104.160,
10 and 81.104.170, are authorized only for agencies located in (a) each
11 county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more and (b)
12 each county with a population of from one hundred twenty-five thousand
13 to less than two hundred ten thousand except for those counties that do
14 not border a county with a population as described under (a) of this
15 subsection. In any county with a population of one million or more or
16 in any county having a population of four hundred thousand or more
17 bordering a county with a population of one million or more, these
18 funding sources may be imposed only by a regional transit authority.

1 (2) Agencies planning to construct and operate a high capacity
2 transportation system should also seek other funds, including federal,
3 state, local, and private sector assistance.

4 (3) Funding sources should satisfy each of the following criteria
5 to the greatest extent possible:

- 6 (a) Acceptability;
- 7 (b) Ease of administration;
- 8 (c) Equity;
- 9 (d) Implementation feasibility;
- 10 (e) Revenue reliability; and
- 11 (f) Revenue yield.

12 (4) Agencies participating in regional high capacity transportation
13 system development are authorized to levy and collect the following
14 voter-approved local option funding sources:

- 15 (a) Employer tax as provided in RCW 81.104.150;
- 16 (b) Special motor vehicle excise tax as provided in RCW 81.104.160;

17 and

- 18 (c) Sales and use tax as provided in RCW 81.104.170.

19 Revenues from these taxes may be used only to support those
20 purposes prescribed in subsection (10) of this section. Before the
21 date of an election authorizing an agency to impose any of the taxes
22 enumerated in this section and authorized in RCW 81.104.150,
23 81.104.160, and 81.104.170, the agency must comply with the process
24 prescribed in RCW 81.104.100 (1) and (2) and 81.104.110. No
25 construction on exclusive right of way may occur before the
26 requirements of RCW 81.104.100(3) are met.

27 (5) Authorization in subsection (4) of this section shall not
28 adversely affect the funding authority of transit agencies not provided
29 for in this chapter. Local option funds may be used to support
30 implementation of interlocal agreements with respect to the
31 establishment of regional high capacity transportation service. Except
32 when a regional transit authority exists, local jurisdictions shall
33 retain control over moneys generated within their boundaries, although
34 funds may be commingled with those generated in other areas for
35 planning, construction, and operation of high capacity transportation
36 systems as set forth in the agreements.

37 (6) Agencies planning to construct and operate high capacity
38 transportation systems may contract with the state for collection and
39 transference of voter-approved local option revenue.

1 (7) Dedicated high capacity transportation funding sources
2 authorized in RCW 81.104.150, 81.104.160, and 81.104.170 shall be
3 subject to voter approval by a simple majority. A single ballot
4 proposition may seek approval for one or more of the authorized taxing
5 sources. ~~((The ballot title shall reference the document identified in
6 subsection (8) of this section.~~

7 ~~(8) Agencies shall provide to the registered voters in the area a
8 document describing the systems plan and the financing plan set forth
9 in RCW 81.104.100. It shall also describe the relationship of the
10 system to regional issues such as development density at station
11 locations and activity centers, and the interrelationship of the system
12 to adopted land use and transportation demand management goals within
13 the region. This document shall be provided to the voters at least
14 twenty days prior to the date of the election.)) When making public
15 representations about revenues available to support a proposed project,
16 regional transit authorities shall not assume, nor imply the
17 availability of, state funds unless those funds have been specifically
18 authorized. Any assumptions of federal funds shall be based on
19 authorizations in the current six-year transportation authorization law
20 and subsequent appropriations therefrom.~~

21 (9) For any election in which voter approval is sought for a high
22 capacity transportation system plan and financing plan pursuant to RCW
23 81.104.040, a local voter's pamphlet shall be produced as provided in
24 chapter 29.81A RCW.

25 (10) Agencies providing high capacity transportation service shall
26 retain responsibility for revenue encumbrance, disbursement, and
27 bonding. Funds may be used for any purpose relating to planning,
28 construction, and operation of high capacity transportation systems and
29 commuter rail systems, personal rapid transit, busways, bus sets, and
30 entrained and linked buses.

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